A ROMANCE OF
THE THREE R's

THREE R's

PENNER & PICTURED BY
WALTER CRANE
LONDON: MARCUS WARD & CO. LTD

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: PREFACE :

THE three books composing this volume, which can also be had separately, "SLATE-AND-PENCILVANIA" appeared last year. It was originally intended to issue them together, but it has not been found practicable to complete the set until now.

If my hobby-horses serve in any degree to help little folks over the rough stones of the road to Reading, WRiting, and ARithmetic, or afford pleasant pastime by the way, they will not have been ridden in vain. At any rate, if wishes were horses, this book should be, in the spirit of its cover-device, a Pegasus to all little passengers aspiring to run, and read, or write.

Walter Crane

Sept: 1886.

A Romance of the Three Rs.

Penned & Pictured by
Walter Crane :

London: Marcus Ward & Co. Ltd.
1886 Oriel House Farringdon S.E.

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187R
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LITTLE
QUEEN
ANNE;

and Her Majesty's Letters
(Patent.)

Penning and Pictured by

WALTER CRANE

LONDON
MARCUS WARD
& CO. LTD.
1886

Little
Queen
Anne,
sitting
as usual
in the
sun,

It was an
invitation
from Three real
Royal Rs to
a Fancy Ball!

She accepts,
but
what shall she
wear?

She takes counsel,
and a leaf out of her Fairy-
Godmother's fashion-
book;

and orders her
coach,

and
twenty six!

conduct
her by easy
steps of one
syllable

cat
pat
rat
hat
sat
bat
fat
flat
mat
tat

to the
guest-chamber
where she meets
some old friends

and is
royally received
by the Three
R's

The First
gives her a
programme;

The Second-
a little
exercise ;

and the 3rd
some slate
refreshment.

Another learned old gentleman
wants to interest her in His story;

Professor
Geography
claims her for
a
round
dance;

while all the foreign Ambassadors try
to get a word in:

but she prefers a chat
with
Miss Muffet

Dr Grammar wishes to
join in the conversation

And, for any
spare attention she
may have left, there
are Three Sisters
who speak in all
languages,

She finds them
so interesting that
she forgets how time
goes, until Mrs Grundy
(an old lady who
minds everybody's
business) says

"It is time for all good little constitutional
Queens to be in bed!"

Her Majesty's
Sleeping-car
stops the way.

and she finds herself back again in the garden,
dreaming of many happy returns to the **Three Rs**.

ercy Vere
pensively puts
a feather in his
cap and fancies
himself a knight
with a plume: =

With the assistance
of his squire (of paper,
paste & scissors), Percy
fastens on his armour.

And mounting his hobby-horse

He gets off at a good round-hand gallop;
tilting at rings,

And

penning down everything that
comes in his way.

ill his career is stopped
by a formidable barrier:
his hobby-horse refusing
the jump, —

Percy is pitched into a
dark ditch on the
other side.

Which transforms him in-
to a black knight. &
when; by hook or by
crook; a friendly hand
fishes him out, =

And hangs him on
the line to dry

Somehow he does not meet
the approval of Academy-
critics, though he does not
feel himself so black as
he is painted:

But he takes a fresh plunge and,
turning over a new leaf,
in the eyes of a fair Siren
he soon writes himself:

Coming up again with a Capital appetite,
after a long course of pothooks and
hangers, he is
transported to find
it is dinner-time,
feeling ready for any

With a bouncing

to follow:

And curled up with
a comfortable

He feels he has made

a pretty big D

After which he feels fit
for further enterprise;

So, taking another A.B.

He puts to sea again,

In search
of the
A.B.C-serpent,

And after a good round-hand-to-
-hand-struggle

Percy black & puts him down in white; with a bold hand:

A a B b C c D d E e F f G g

H h I i J j K k L l M m N n

O o P p Q q R r S s T t

U u V v W w X x Y y Z z

ery early
in life
he was suited
for a sailor

and, at the seaside,
has thoughts of voyaging.

So he
buys a
boat,

and,
taking a few
necessaries,

he sets
sail

Wind and weather
take counsel
together

and the result of their
conference
is

after a severe
squall Dick
finds himself
cast up on a
strange shore,

Composed
principally
of slates and
pencils

A vibrant, stylized illustration featuring three figures in a dynamic, almost dancing pose. The figures are rendered in a bold, graphic style with thick outlines and a limited color palette of red, yellow, blue, and green. They are holding various signs and objects. The figure on the left holds a long, thin object (possibly a sword or staff) and a small rectangular sign. The central figure holds a large, diamond-shaped sign with the text "when some strange figures suddenly appear." written on it. The figure on the right holds a large, rectangular sign. The background is a solid light blue. The overall style is reminiscent of mid-20th-century modernist art or graphic design.

The natives
add him
up on a
slate.

Dick is shown
into the parlour
where the Queen
offers him some
honey she has
subtracted herself

and sends
him into the
garden to
help the
maid do
multiplica-
tion on the
clothes line;

till she
receives a
check from
a little black-
bird and a
division takes
place between
them at her
expense.

but all
that takes place
is in strict ac-
cordance with
the rules of
Arithmetic.

and when, as clown, Dick goes shopping in the native harlequinade, he finds it desirable to remember that 2 & 2 make 4, & not to take more than he can pay for.

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The ship touches at the island, the Captain takes him aboard, & Dick takes his leave for the present of SLATE AND PENCIL VANIA

A ROMANCE OF THE R.R.R.

A ROMANCE
OF

BEING NOS. 1. 2. 3. OF WALTER
CRANE'S PICTURE BOOKS NEW
SERIES
LONDON: MARCUS WARD & CO. LIM.

LITTLE
QUEEN
ANNE

SLATE
AND
PEN
CIL
VANIA

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